

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL: EU511484674US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of OAKLEY et al.  
S/N: n/a  
Filed: Contemporaneous Herewith  
For: "Nitrogen Rejection Method and Apparatus"

Group No.: n/a  
Examiner: n/a  
Atty. Dkt.: M02B131

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 CFR 1.97)**

The Examiner's attention is directed to the documents identified on the attached Form PTO-1449, "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant." A copy of each document is enclosed.

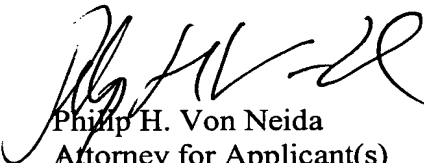
Please consider all the listed documents and list them on the cover sheet of any patents to issue from the subject application.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application other than a Continued Prosecution Application under Section 1.53(d) or within three months of the date of entry of the National Phase of an international application or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under Section 1.114.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b), no additional fee is due. As a precaution, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 02-2865 any fee required by this submission.

Very truly yours,

Date: November 5, 2003  
The BOC Group, Inc.  
Legal Services - Intellectual Property  
100 Mountain Avenue  
Murray Hill, NJ 07974

  
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Attachments  
Form PTO-1449  
Cited References

PVN:bjl

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL: EU511484674US

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

Sheet

1

of

1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number

[illegible]

First Named Inventor
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Oakey et al.

[illegible]

Examiner Name
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Attorney Docket Number

M02B131	
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## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	Footnote
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	1	GB 2 298 034 A	08-21-1996	McNeil et al.		
	2	EP 1 275 920 A1	01-15-2003	Oakey		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).<sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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